Hi no Kagutsuchi

Slice of Life Slice of Bliss

Volume 1 Chapter 2

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Boo-hoo!
No! We're playing!
LIKE I SAID--
THAT'LL HAVE TO WAIT I'M DOING MY HOMEWORK
SORRY, REI.
NII-CHAN, LET'S PLAY!
FINE.
UGH.
WAAAAAAAH!
You're playing! You're playing with me!
Heh heh.
I love you, nii-chan!
YOU'LL NEVER STOP BEING A BABY, HUH, REI?
Whee!
ONLY FOR A FEW MINUTES

Chapter 2:
第二葉「アマテラスの湯里」
Yuri, Amaterasu

I'M A GOD? ME?!
YOU MOST DEFINITELY BELONG TO THE TAKAMA CLAN, WHO INHERIT THE SOUL OF A TAKAMA-GA-HARA GOD
THAT IS TO SAY, YOU'RE THE PROXY WHO HOSTS KAGUTSUCHI'S SOUL!
あんぐ
YUP
YOU'RE KAGU-TSUCHI
.....
My name is Hachiya Rei
I may not look it but I'm 15

Yesterday here in this weird shrine a strange girl hit me in the head with a metal bat,

thinking I had been stealing the offertory

Some crazy monster attacked me...

and there were these freaking black flames coming out of my body all of a sudden

To top it off, I ended up looking like a five-year-old

I'M AT MY LIMITS MY HEAD HURTS LIKE HELL

YOUR OFFICIAL NAME IS HI-NO-KAGUTSU-CHI

H-HI-WHAT?

YOU SHOULD KNOW IF YOU'VE READ THE KOJIKI.

HE WAS THE GOD OF FIRE

THE LAST CHILD IZANAGI AND IZANAMI HAD TOGETHER.

YOU PRAYED TO ONE IN FRONT OF THE OFFERTORY BOX
yesterday
Ugh
THE KOJIKI? THE BOOK OF JAPAN'S MYTHICAL HISTORY?
GIVE ME A BREAK THERE ARE NO SUCH THINGS AS GODS
ANYWAY!
SINCE YOU'RE A PROXY, YOU'RE ALSO MEMBER OF THE TAKAMA CLAN
Don't lump me in with the rest of you, you freak of a priest!
Do you expect me to—
I'M TAKAMA SUOU, THE PROXY OF OMOIKANE
Don't ignore me!
YUKI-CHAN IS THE PROXY OF AMATERASU.
Her full name is Takama Yuki
SETSUKO-SAN ISN'T A PROXY
Hi
SHE'S A NOZAWA. THE NOZAWAS ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO KNOW ABOUT US

Welcome to our clan!
It's probably useless to argue with him in this atmosphere.

HMM, THAT REMINDS ME
SPEAKING IN BROAD TERMS,
WHAT'S A PROXY ANYWAY?
SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH ME?

SO...
YOU'RE SAYING I HAVE TO GET RID OF DAEMONS OR SOMETHING?
YOU UNDERSTAND, THEN.

A PROXY IS A GOOD GOD
WHO DEFEATS DAEMONS, OR EVIL GODS
I SUPPOSE WE CAN SAY

FROM TODAY ONWARD, YOU'LL BE LIVING WITH US IN THIS SHRINE
Stop babbling like you own my life, will you?
UNLIKE YOU, I'M NO STREET PERFORMER!
Ow, ow
I'M OUT OF HERE, RIGHT THIS INSTANT!
W-wait
HUH?
NOW THAT KAGUTSUCHI IS AWAKE WITHIN YOU,
EVERY TIME A DAEMON FINDS YOU, IT WILL ATTACK YOU.
JUST AS WE PROXIES VIEW DAEMONS AS ENEMIES, THEY THINK OF US AS AN EXISTENCE THEY MUST KILL
YOU SAW YESTERDAY, DIDN'T YOU? THAT TERRIFYING FIGURE—

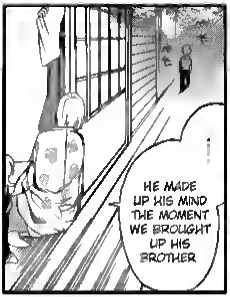
A-ARE YOU TRYING TO SCARE ME?!
DAEMONS FEED ON HUMAN SOULS TO REMAIN IN THIS WORLD
THEY POSSESS HUMANS AND SUCK THEIR SPIRITS A LITTLE AT A TIME.
SWALLOW HUMANS WHOLE FROM THE HEAD...
UGH.
SOMETIMES THEY TORMENT AND EXHAUST SOULS BEFORE EATING THEM. THEY'RE CRUEL AND TERRIFYING...
YOU THINK YOU CAN GO UP AGAINST THEM ALONE?!
Gahhhh
eye
open
Don't stare at your eyes!
AND WHY ARE YOU SCARING HIM?
AH HA HA.
BECAUSE HIS REACTIONS ARE PRICELESS

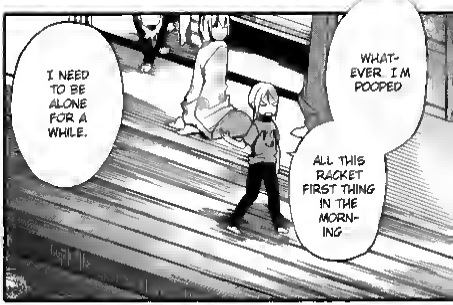
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEBODY, AREN'T YOU?
REI.
BARRIER?
DIDN'T YOURS GET BUSTED YESTERDAY?
YOU'RE MUCH SAFER HERE BECAUSE OF THE PROTECTIVE BARRIER AROUND THIS PLACE
IT'S TRUE THOUGH.
HUH?
Y-YEAH, I AM.
IF YOU REALLY CAN'T STAND THE IDEA OF STAYING HERE,
HOW ABOUT YOU THINK OF THIS PLACE AS YOUR BASE WHILE TRAVELING?
WHAT?
IT'S NOT SUCH A BAD IDEA, RIGHT?
WE HAVE A LOT OF SPARE ROOMS, SO PREPARING ONE FOR YOU IS NO PROBLEM
THREE FREE MEALS PLUS A NAP, OF COURSE
YOU CAN BATHE AND EAT HERE FOR AS LONG AS YOU STAY HERE

Bath...
Three free meals plus a nap.
YES, I CAN SEE HOW THIS MIGHT BENEFIT YOU IN YOUR SEARCH
HOW OLD ARE YOU? 15? 14? YOU SHOULD BE IN SCHOOL INSTEAD OF HITTING THE ROAD.
WHO IS IT THAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?
ONE OF YOUR PARENTS? PET DOG?
I SEE.
YOU MUST HAVE TRIED EVERYTHING AND EVERYWHERE FOR YOU TO COME HERE
OH?
MY BIG BROTHER.
UH-HUH
IF YOU HAVE KAGUTSUCHI IN YOU,
HMM
YOUR BROTHER IS PROBABLY A HOST, TOO.

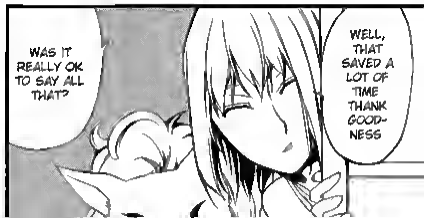
WHAT? MY BROTHER HAS ONE, TOO?!
EVERYBODY BORN INTO THE TAKAMA CLAN HAS A GOD IN HIM OR HER.
YOU MEAN...
IT'S LIKELY THAT HIS DISAPPEARANCE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH US PROXIES OR THE DAEMONS.
IF YOUR BROTHER'S GOD WAS AWAKENED ALL OF A SUDDEN THE WAY YOURS DID, THEN IT'S ALMOST CERTAIN
Daemons think of proxies as an existence they must kill.
SO—
UM, HELLO?
ARE YOU LISTENING?
Daemons feed on human souls to remain in the world.
They swallow human's souls.
They possess a human and suck their spirits all in one go.
Sometimes they torment and exhaust souls before eating them.
!!!!!
IF I STAY HERE...
WILL I AT LEAST BE ABLE TO GET INFO ON MY BROTHER?
.....

ALL RIGHT.
I'LL STAY HERE FOR THE TIME BEING.
HUH?!
YES.
NO, NO PROBLEM AT ALL.
I thought you had no problem with me staying here!
カン
ッカ!


HE MADE UP HIS MIND THE MOMENT WE BROUGHT UP HIS BROTHER


I NEED TO BE ALONE FOR A WHILE.
WHATEVER. I'M POOPED
ALL THIS RACKET FIRST THING IN THE MORNING

HUH?
YOU'RE SCHEMING AGAIN AREN'T YOU?


WAS IT REALLY OK TO SAY ALL THAT?
WELL, THAT SAVED A LOT OF TIME THANK GOODNESS

EWW. YOU MAKE ME SOUND LIKE A PEDO.
I MEAN IT DIFFERENTLY, YOU IDIOT.
.....
OH, REALLY?
YOU JUST WANT HIM, DON'T YOU?
I'M GENUINELY CONCERNED FOR HIM.
WHAT EXACTLY IS GOING ON HERE?
DAEMONS? PSHAW.
THIS ISN'T SOME MANGA.
WHEN WILL I GO BACK TO MY OLD BODY?
I'VE BEEN LIKE THIS SINCE I WOKE UP.
Don't tell me... I'll stay this way forever because I became a proxy.
UGH.
I DON'T EVEN HAVE THE ENERGY TO THROW A FIT.

woof
!
MMM?
OH.
YOU
ARE YOU REALLY THAT SHAMELESS BITCH?
YOU'RE LITERALLY ONE NOW A FEMALE DOG, GET IT?
arf
YOU DO KNOW HOW TO TRANSFORM BACK, RIGHT?
UH,
CAN YOU EVEN UNDERSTAND ME WHEN YOU'RE IN DOG FORM?
HMM?
Whoa!
What are you doing, you dog?
You're going to make me sneeze—
PEPPER?

AH
choo!
CHOO!
AH...
AH—
UGH...
OW...
ye-
owch!
These clothes got too tight on me!
WE PROXIES ARE CURSED WITH A NUMBER OF THINGS
ONE, IF WE OVEREXERT OUR DIVINE POWER OR SNEEZE,
WE TRANSFORM INTO THE TRUE FORMS OF OUR GODS.

I TURN INTO A WOLF, THE TRUE FORM OF THE GODDESS AMATERASU
WH-
YOU BECOME A SMALL CHILD BECAUSE KAGUTSUCHI DIED AS SOON AS HE WAS BORN
Wh-
WE USE A CHOKER TO CONTROL OUR POWER SO WE DON'T TRANSFORM.
WHAT'S WRONG?
IS THIS TOO SHOCKING FOR YOU?
BUT WE DON'T HAVE ONE FOR YOU YET.
Y-
you_
MM?

!
ぽっちゃーん
HE FAINTS A LOT
tap tap
I'M OFF.
WAIT, YURI-CHAN
JUST A FEW MINUTES BEFORE YOU GO TO SCHOOL
WHAT IS IT?
I JUST GOT A CALL FROM CHIKA-KUN. THERE'S A DAEMON NEARBY
WHAT KIND?
I DON'T THINK THEY COULD IDENTIFY IT BECAUSE IT POSSESSED SOMEONE.
flick

I'LL SEAL IT ON MY WAY TO SCHOOL BEFORE IT HARMS MORE PEOPLE.
GASP
NO, NO.
I'LL TAKE REI TO-NIGHT--
THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO TEST KAGUTSU-CHI.
IN A REAL FIGHT.
DAMN HER.
WHAT IF I CAUGHT A COLD?!
OH, PERFECT TIMING.
REI-KUN, OVER HERE
What?
WHAT IS IT THIS TIME?
IF YOU HAVE SOME-THING TO SAY TO ME, OUT WITH IT
YOU HAVE WORK, KAGUTSUCHI
WHAT'S WRONG?

Do something about her before I live here.
HUH?
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY COMMON SENSE?!
WHAT YOU DID JUST NOW, THE WAY YOU BLUDGEONED ME WITH A METAL BAT,
THE BOSSY WAY YOU TALK...
WHAT?
WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
ONCE I TRANSFORMED BACK, HE—
Yipes! Don't be— don't be stu—don't be stupid!
I DON'T GET IT.
ANYWAY, REI-KUN,
YOU'D BETTER HURRY AND TAKE CARE OF YOUR FIRST JOB.
TRAI-MA...
JOB?
THERE'S A DAEMON REAWAKENED NEARBY
LET'S GO
WHAT?!

BUT YOU STILL CAN'T CONTROL YOUR POWER, REMEMBER?
YOU MIGHT TRANSFORM ANYTIME GOING ALONE IS TOO RISKY FOR YOU.
I'D RATHER GO ON MY OWN!
WHY DO I HAVE TO GO WITH YOU?!
NOW THAT'S EXPLAINED GET GOING RICE GRAIN BOY.
R-RICE GRAIN BOY?!
Whaa-aaat?!
HE'S RIGHT.
UNTIL YOU HAVE A CHOKER TO SUPPRESS YOUR POWER, YOU'LL HAVE TO PARTNER UP WITH YURI-CHAN ♡
I COULDN'T DO THAT EVEN IF I WANTED TO.
DON'T BE MAD. I HOPE YOU TWO WILL GET ALONG...
THAT BITCH DOESN'T UNDERSTAND OTHER PEOPLE'S FEELINGS AND SHE HAS THAT COLD LOOK
THOSE AREN'T THE ONLY THINGS SHE DOESN'T HAVE. IT'S MUCH MORE REFRESHING ONCE YOU'VE GOTTEN USED TO IT.
AS IF!
YOU EXPECT ME TO WORK WITH THAT INCONSIDERATE, SHAMELESS BITCH?! HELL, NO!

EVEN THOUGH SHE DOES WANT TO UNDERSTAND, SHE CAN'T.
HUH?
SHE HAS HER OWN REASONS FOR ACTING THE WAY SHE DOES. PLEASE GIVE HER THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT.
AND THAT MEANS...
TAKE CARE!
WAAAH!
Get along with her?
...
SHOU SAYS THE DAEMON IS SOMEWHERE NEAR THE SHRINE.
STAY SHARP.
Her face is seriously blank.
Does she even care?

HEY, BITCH
MY NAME IS NOT BITCH
IT'S YURI
YOU... REALLY DON'T THINK IT'S A BIG DEAL, HUH?
WHAT'S A BIG DEAL?

EARLIER
WHEN I SAW...
SAW WHAT?
DO YOU WANT ME TO SPELL IT OUT FOR YOU? DO YOU?!

WHAT IS IT?
IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, JUST SAY IT
Forget it! It's not like you care!
YOU'RE WEIRD

HOLY FIRE?
WHAT'S THAT?
WHEN WE FIND THE DAEMON, I'LL DISTRACT IT,
AND YOU'LL ATTACK IT WITH YOUR HOLY FIRE
SO, WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?
YESTERDAY YOU BURNED A DAEMON WITH YOUR BLACK FLAMES,
REMEMBER?
Black flames.
WHAT THE HECK WERE THOSE FLAMES?
WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?
OH! THAT'S WHAT IT IS!

There's a tradition passed down the generations...
that it's a secret art that can revert a daemon into a god and erase its existence from this world.
The holy fire...
is said to be a sacred technique.

I DID IT UNCONSCIOUSLY
BUT I DON'T REMEMBER HOW TO MAKE THOSE FLAMES
EVEN THOUGH WE TAKAMAS ARE PROXIES THE ONLY THING WE CAN DO IS SEAL DAEMONS
YOU CAN BEAT DAEMONS WITHOUT ME.
YOU'RE A PROXY TOO, RIGHT?
KAGUTSUCHI—YOU—BEING HERE MAKES IT A DIFFERENT STORY.
THEN JUST DO YOUR USUAL SEALING THING AND BE DONE WITH IT.
WE'VE BEEN SEALING AND RE-SEALING THEM ALL THIS TIME
AFTER A FEW YEARS, THE SEAL WEAKENS AND THE DAEMONS BREAK FREE AND ARE RE-AWAKENED

DAEMONS DO NOT BELONG HERE WE HAVE TO GET RID OF THEM.
YOU DON'T HAVE THE POWER TO SEAL THEM BUT YOU HAVE KAGUTSUCHI'S HOLY FIRE
YOU HAVE THAT DIVINE POWER...
WHICH WE DON'T HAVE

NII-CHAN, PLAY WITH ME!
NATION?
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SAVE THIS NATION OF GODS
THAT'S STRETCH-ING IT

HUH?

LET'S PLAY HIDE-AND-SEEK!
WHAT?
WHAT DO YOU WANT, KID?
SORRY, BUT I'M BUSY. GET SOMEONE ELSE TO PLAY WITH YOU.
LOOK--
DON'T WANNA!
Waaaa-aaah!
Whoa! All right, all right! I'll play with you, so stop crying!!
GIVE ME A BREAK.
YOU'RE MAKING ME LOOK LIKE A BULLY
hic
hic
Eh heh heh..
I like you!
He reminds me of me as a kid.
HEY, YURI.
I GUESS I'LL ENTERTAIN HIM FOR A WHILE--

H-
HEY...
AH...
AH...
...?
What the hell did you do?!
HIM?!
IT'S ACTUALLY A CAT WITH A FORKED TAIL, FORMERLY A GODDESS IN THE SUN. SHE POSSESSED THE CHILD AND DEVOURED HIS SOUL—
SHE TOOK OVER AND BECAME HIM.
HE'S THE DAE-MON

HURRY AND USE YOUR HOLY FIRE BEFORE THE BOY'S SOUL IS FULLY DEVOURED.
THERE ARE OTHER NEGATIVE EFFECTS, TOO.
THIS KID IS THE DAEMON?! ARE YOU FREAKING KIDDING ME?!
I'M PERFECTLY SERIOUS.
SUOU TOLD YOU YESTERDAY THAT DAEMONS POSSESS PEOPLE.
I PUT TEMPORARY SEAL ON THE DAEMON INSIDE THE BOY
HURRY AND CLEANSE IT
BUT...
THE HOLY FIRE AFFECTS ONLY THE DAEMON. IT WON'T KILL THE BOY.
That's not the problem!
HOW COULD I DO THAT TO A KID?
.....
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS
EMOTIONS ARE BAGGAGE

ARE YOU...
.....
HE WON'T DIE. THERE SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM, SHOULD THERE?
EVEN HUMAN?
"DON'T BE RIDICULOUS"?
LEARN HUMAN EMOTIONS FIRST
BEFORE YOU CLAIM TO BE A GOD,
I DON'T HAVE—
HUMAN...
EMOTIONS...

I almost devoured his soul,
but you two...
!!
...!
had the gall to get in my way!

You're a new puppy. I've never seen you before.
WH—A MONSTER CAT?!
I would... love to kill you! ♥
THIS IS NO TIME FOR TALKING
THE HOLY FIRE!
Eat
MEOWR!
Whoa!
I— I ALREADY TOLD YOU, I DON'T KNOW HOW!
GET RID OF HER WITH YOUR BLACK FLAMES!

Tee hee hee.
You still find time to bicker like a couple?
ENOUGH WITH KAGU-TSUCHI!
FOR YOUR INFORMA-TION, MY NAME IS REI!
Didn't I ask at the start?
YOU MAKE ONE USE-LESS KAGUT-SUCHI
WATCH OUT!
AH!
The child is engrossed.

H-HEY!
ARE YOU OK?!
DON'T WORRY.
.....!
Hee hee hee hee. Foolish girl!
!!
?
WHAT...?
THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANY PROBLEM AS LONG AS HE'S SAFE.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M ASKING YOU!
THE BOY'S SOUL IS SAFE
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND INSTRUCTIONS
DON'T MIND ME.
BEFORE THAT, YOU NEED—
A-ARE YOU STUPID OR WHAT?!
HURRY AND USE YOUR HOLY FIRE
IF YOU LEAVE HER BE, MORE PEOPLE WILL DIE
RICE GRAIN BOY?
YOU STILL CALL ME THAT AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!
Hey!

STAY ALIVE, YOU!!
Argh, I get it already!
I'll pull the holy fire stunt thingy!
WAS WHAT I SAID, BUT....
I CAN'T REMEMBER HOW TO DO IT.
WHERE IN HELL DID SHE GO?!
It was a real treat.
Young women's souls are the best out there. This one will keep me alive long.
Over here.

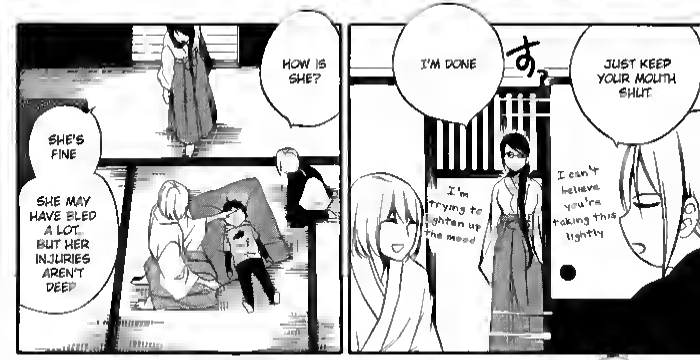
スル…
AH...
CRAP!
What kind of soul should I try next?
Hee hee hee.
Y-YOU ATE HERS?
UGH?!
HONEY?!
Hee hee hee hee hee
How'd I do it last night?
Remember!
Signs Stop
止まれ
!!
Re-mem-ber!
Remember!
Just peachy.
Remember!

This is it!
WH—
WHAT ?!
GET LOST,
YOU
fugly cat!

DID DID I DO IT?
MEOOWRR WWR!
IS
IS HE DEAD?
!
ACK, I SHRUNK AGAIN
YURI!
There's that guy!
OH, YEAH!
WAS IT— WAS IT MY FAULT?!
BECAUSE I DID THE FIRE THING TOO LATE?

HEY
BITCH!
GOOD SHE'S ALIVE
MAYBE I SHOULD TAKE THE KID ALONG
I haven't been crossing mountains and valleys for nothing!
Whoa-aaa-argh!

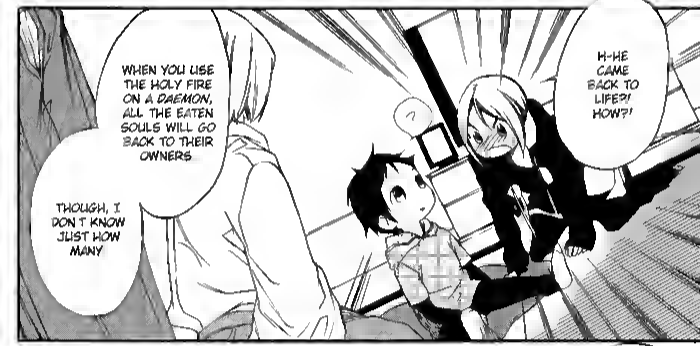
Oh, wow! You did swell!
I SEE YOU'VE GONE THROUGH A LOT THIS MORNING. AH HA!
ha!


HOW IS SHE?
SHE'S FINE
SHE MAY HAVE BLED A LOT, BUT HER INJURIES AREN'T DEEP
I'M DONE
JUST KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT
I'm trying to lighten up the mood
I can't believe you're taking this lightly

HIS SOUL WASN'T COMPLETELY DEVOURED, BUT IT'S HARDLY STABLE.
HE HASN'T BEEN RESPONDING TO MY CALLS, EITHER. MAYBE...
NOW, ABOUT THIS KID.

IF ONLY I HAD LISTENED TO HER AND HEED MY FIRE RIGHT AWAY...
I MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SAVE HIM
IS HE...
GOING TO DIE?
...
BUT REI,
YOU COULDN'T REMEMBER HOW
Again
People are defending me again. Like always.
...
SUOU, I...
SHH.
I REALLY...
?

Huh?!!
I THOUGHT AS MUCH.
Meow
MMM...
LIM-MM...


WHEN YOU USE THE HOLY FIRE ON A DAEMON, ALL THE EATEN SOULS WILL GO BACK TO THEIR OWNERS.
THOUGH, I DON'T KNOW JUST HOW MANY.
H-HE CAME BACK TO LIFE?! HOW?!

I EXPECT ALL HELL WILL BREAK LOOSE.
I THINK ALL THE SOULS THE CAT ATE TODAY ARE SAFELY RETURNED BY NOW
SATOKO...
SO—

I promise I won't filch money from your wallet anymore, so come back!
わっ
So that's why there's been a hole in my wallet! You thief!!
ガバッ
Ack?!
Satake?!
HE IS DEAD
HONEY!
Daddy!
WHY
IS THIS HAPPENING TO ME?
I'm so tired
ガク
GOOD NEWS, HUH
YOU DID A SWELL JOB
Bliss

MMM?
MAYBE I SHOULD GO CHECK UP ON HER
I WONDER IF SHE IS DOING OK
WH-
WHO ARE YOU?

I... am the goddess of sunny places.
My duty is to direct the light...
from Amaterasu-sama's sun
to this perch.
Thank you... for restoring me to the state I once was before Yamatsu Dokami* changed me.
ARE YOU... THE DAEMON I BURNED?
So I am
*Another name for Izanami, the goddess mother and goddess of the underworld
The legends told from time memorial
of the god Ho-no-Kagutsuchi are true.
He is the god with a bright fire.
We gods have been awaiting your advent for what seemed an eternity

DID YOU SAY "ADVENT"? NEVER HAD PEOPLE SAY SOMETHING SO, UH, GODLY ABOUT ME.
I MEAN, I DON'T BELIEVE IN GODS!
This world...
is cursed.

Izanagi-sama's influence on the boulder that blocks the other world from this was weaving this
and the Yomi-tsu-shikome of Yomi-no-kuni placed a curse on the gods.
that turned them into demons.
all will be lost.
Human souls must go through a cycle.
Once the cycle stops.
LOST?

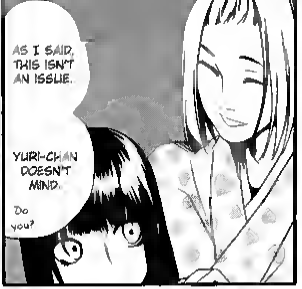
THAT AGAIN?
I'VE BEEN HEARING IT SINCE YESTERDAY. WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO SAY? "YES, I WILL DO IT"? RIGHT. SURE.
Hi-ao-Kagutsuchi Dokami,
please deliver this world.

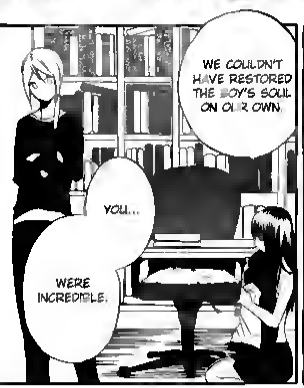
you were born into.
It is the fate...

HUH?
OH, OK
"It is the fate you were born into."
REI.
YURI'S AWAKE. WHY DON'T YOU GO SEE HER?
.....
Now...
is the opening time.
HEY!
WAIT---

THE REASON I WAS BORN HUH
HEY SUOU
COME IN
YOU KNOW WHERE YURI—
HI THERE REI-KUN
HOW DID YOU FIND MY ROOM?
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?!
HEALING SESSION
OMOIKANE SPECIALIZES IN HEALING YOU SEE
COVER YOUR FRONT!
FRONT? WHERE?
Yikes! Turn the other way, you idiot!

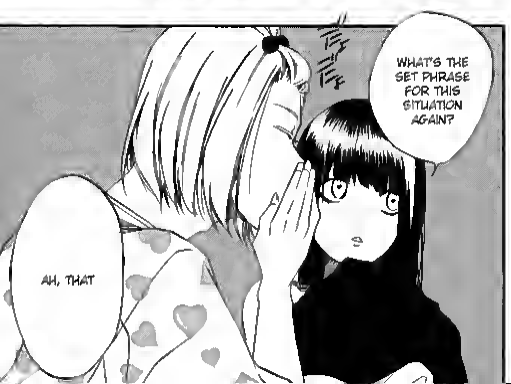
Don't act like it's the most normal thing to do, pervert!


AS I SAID, THIS ISN'T AN ISSUE.
YURI-CHAN DOESN'T MIND.
Do you?


WE COULDN'T HAVE RESTORED THE BOY'S SOUL ON OUR OWN.
YOU...
WERE INCREDIBLE.

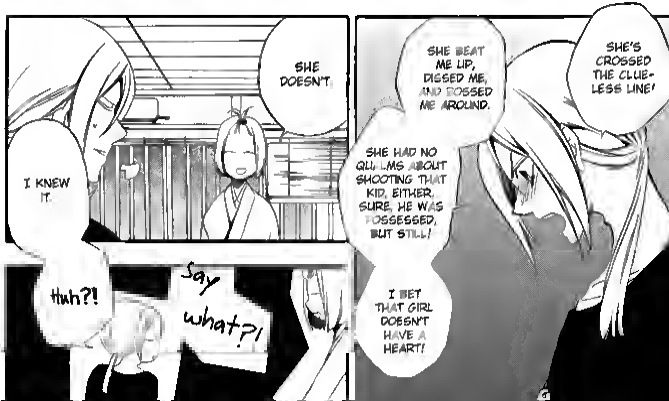
.....
WELL, YOU DIDN'T QUITE MAKE IT.

I HEARD THE HOLY FIRE WAS A SUCCESS.


WHAT'S THE SET PHRASE FOR THIS SITUATION AGAIN?
AH, THAT

Thanks.
REI.
YEAH?

YURI-CHAN CONFUSES YOU, DOESN'T SHE?
THAT'S BECAUSE SHE'S CLUELESS
I REALLY DON'T GET HER!
AH! I'M NOT DONE YET
GO AWAY! GET OUTTA HERE!

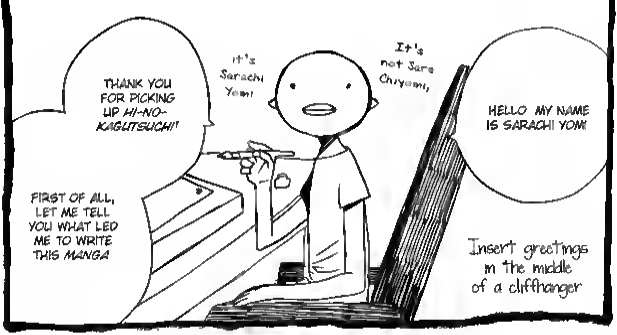

SHE DOESN'T.
I KNEW IT.
Huh?!
Say what?!
SHE'S CROSSED THE CLUELESS LINE!
SHE BEAT ME UP, DISSED ME, AND TOSSED ME AROUND.
SHE HAD NO QUALMS ABOUT SHOOTING THAT KID, EITHER. SURE, HE WAS POSSESSED, BUT STILL!
I BET THAT GIRL DOESN'T HAVE A HEART!

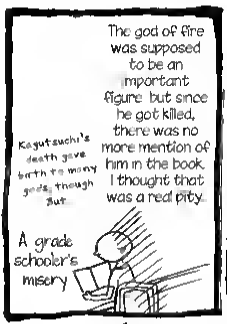
COMPLETELY DEVOID OF EMOTIONS WHICH ARE NATURAL TO HUMANS.
FOR SOME REASON, EVERY GENERATION OF AMATERASU'S PROXY HAS NO HEART.
NOT IN THE LITERAL SENSE, OF COURSE, FEELINGS.
.....
BEING NAKED DOESN'T FAZE HER, EITHER.
SHE DOESN'T FEEL, THAT'S WHY.
SHE DOESN'T APOLOGIZE FOR HER OFFENSIVE BEHAVIOR AND LANGUAGE, FOR ONE.
IT ALL ADDS UP, NO?
FOR ...
FOR REAL ?
JUST LIKE THE SUN STRETCHING ITS LIFE FOR MANKIND
IN HER OWN AWKWARD WAY
SHE MAY NOT BE THE MOST TACTFUL PERSON, BUT SHE'S STRONG AND KIND...
IT ADDS UP, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT.
SHE DOESN'T HAVE A HEART, SO SHE SAYS HEARTLESS THINGS.

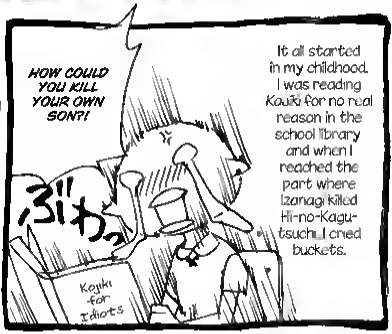
SHE IS AMATERASU, THE GODDESS OF THE SUN.
AFTER ALL,
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND SOON.
HUUUUH?
AMATERASU HUH?
WERE YOU ADMIRING YURI-TAN?
OH?
YOU NEED TO DIE AT LEAST ONCE.
YOU'RE BLUSHING
AM NOT!
!!?
MMM?
SHUT UP!
Awww, you're pouting!
OOH! SCARY!

WH-
WHAT WAS THAT?!
?
HI-NO-
KAGUTSU-CHI...
I'M
gonna kill you!

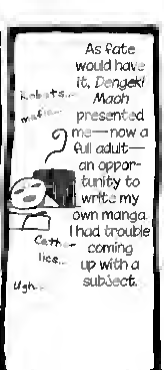
Interim Bonus, the first


THANK YOU FOR PICKING UP HI-NO-KAGUTSUCHI!
It's Sarachi Yomi
It's not Sara Chiyomi
HELLO. MY NAME IS SARACHI YOMI
FIRST OF ALL, LET ME TELL YOU WHAT LED ME TO WRITE THIS MANGA
Insert greetings in the middle of a cliffhanger


The god of fire was supposed to be an important figure but since he got killed, there was no more mention of him in the book. I thought that was a real pity.
Kagutsuchi's death gave birth to many gods, though. But
A grade schooler's misery


HOW COULD YOU KILL YOUR OWN SON?!
It all started in my childhood. I was reading Kojiki for no real reason in the school library and when I reached the part where Izanagi killed Hi-no-Kagutsuchi, I cried buckets.
Kojiki for Idiots

KAGUTSUCHI HARDLY SHOWED UP IN KOJIKI, SO I'M GOING TO WRITE A STORY WITH HIM AS THE LEAD!
THAT'S IT!
I went to a shrine in the neighborhood to get away from all that. I found out it was a shrine of Kagutsuchi (surprisingly people have no idea which god a shrine worships), and I suddenly remembered crying over Kagutsuchi as a child.
And so this story was born.
TBC


As fate would have it, Dengeki Maoh presented me—now a full adult—an opportunity to write my own manga. I had trouble coming up with a subject.
Kabuto...
Catholics...
Ugh...